

# Negative Response to Rules/Requests

First, be sure the classroom rules are ...

- consistent with school rules
- understandable
- doable (for students)
- manageable (for teacher)
- applicable/consistent
- stated positively
- stated behaviorally
- consistent with YOUR philosophy of how students learn best



Be sure the consequences of poor behavior ...

- are clear and specific
- are not punishments
- are natural and/or logical
- are related to the rule that was broken
- have a range of alternatives
  - reminder
  - warning
  - conference with student
  - conference with parent and/or administrator

EXAMPLE	
<u>Rule</u>	<u>Consequences</u>
Students will hand in homework on the day it is due.	1. Reminder 2. Warning

3. Conference with student
4. Points subtracted
5. Conference with parent

Elements of an effective teacher-student conference

- understand and clarify the problem
- disclose the goal of the misbehavior
- brainstorm alternatives
- choose a solution
- make a commitment to the solution and set a time and date for a follow-up conference

*(Dinkmeyer, McKay, and Dinkmeyer, 1980, p. 113-117)*